

DANIEL F. WATERS GERMANTOWN DYE WORKS,
BUILDING C
37-55 East Wister Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-213-G

HAER
PA
51-PHILA,
7166-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HAER
PA
51-PHILA
716G-

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

DANIEL F. WATERS GERMANTOWN DYE WORKS, BUILDING G

HAER No. PA-213-G

Location:

37-55 E. Wister Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

Present Owner:

Greater Germantown Housing Development Corporation
48 East Penn Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Present Occupant:

Vacant.

Significance:

This c.1907 dye house was part of Daniel F. Waters early expansion.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

Date(s) of Erection:

Building G was built in c.1907.

Architect:

Unknown.

Original/Subsequent Owners:

See Chain of Title.

Builder, Contractor, Suppliers:

Unknown.

Original Plans/Construction:

Building remains, largely, as built.

Alterations/Additions:

There are minor alterations to Building G. In one instance, original sash has been replaced in a first floor window by modern sash.

B. Historical Context

Building G was built as part of Daniel F. Water's c.1907 expansion of the Germantown Dye Works. The small, two-story structure served as the dye room, where dyes were stored and mixed within close proximity to dye houses C, E, and F, where the vats were kept.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

Architectural Character:

Building G is an early twentieth century vernacular industrial building.

Condition of Fabric:

Building G is in poor condition. Various window lights have been removed, exposing the interior to the elements.

B. Description of Exterior

Overall Dimensions:

2-story, roughly 25' x 30'.

Foundations:

Concrete.

Walls:

Brick, running bond.

Structural System/Framing:

Brick cladding over framing members.

Porches/Stoops/Balconies/Bulkheads:

Not applicable.

Chimneys:

Not available.

Openings:

Doorways/Doors:

Doorway of east elevation composed of brick surround with wooden, four-panel door.

Windows/Shutters:

Four-over-four double-hung windows on second floor of east elevation. The second floor windows form three bays, the central bay being a paired window flanked by two solitary windows. Simple molded wood window surrounds frame these windows. First floor projecting room has a wooden surround casement window.

Roof:

Gable roof, with built-up asphalt roofing.

C. Description of Interior

Floor Plans:

Building G's first floor is accessible from Building C and E. The first floor is composed of one open room. At the north end of the building is a stairway. The first floor has a projecting bay, measuring roughly 5' x 13' at its east elevation. The second floor is one open room.

Stairways:

An enclosed wooden stairway connects the first and second floor in the north end of the building.

Flooring:

First floor: Concrete.
Second floor: wooden planking.

Wall/Ceiling Finishes:

Walls have exposed brick on ground floor and a vertical wood panel finish. Ceiling has exposed truss system with vertical beaded board paneling.

Openings:

Doorways/Doors:

Molded surround doorways, all doors have been removed.

Windows:

Painted molded surround with sill.

Decorative Features and Trim:

No available.

Hardware:

Modern hardware found throughout the structure.

Mechanical Equipment:

Heating, air conditioning, ventilation:

Central steam heat.

Lighting:

Electric.

Plumbing:

Not available.

D. Site

General Setting/Orientation:

Building G is surrounded by Buildings C, E, and F, as well as the courtyard.

Historic Landscape Design:

None

Outbuildings:

None.